

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the title as follows:

~~METHOD FOR PRODUCING CERAMIC STRUCTURE~~
MANUFACTURING METHOD OF CERAMIC STRUCTURE

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 13, to line 25 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The refractory firing powder used was: the particle diameters = 0.05 to 1.00 mm and the metal Si percentage composition by weight = 10%. The refractory firing powder is classified by the degree of circularity less than 0.3 (Reference Example 5), 0.3 to 0.5 (Reference Example 6), and 0.5 to 1.0 (~~Reference Example 3~~). In addition, the supporting layers were formed by laying the powder of the respective groups classified by degree of circularity with the layer thickness = 1.0 mm on the furnace member. Thereafter, the firing objects were placed on the supporting layers and prefiring and firing were performed continuously under the same conditions, and the ceramic structures having the Si-bonded SiC structure were thereby manufactured.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 27, line 3, to line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Meanwhile, when the degree of the circularity is 0.5 or more, contours become rounded and the powder cannot bite into the ~~sintering~~firing object easily. Therefore, since an adhesive force is small even if the powder is adhered to the fired body, it is possible to brush the powder off easily without incurring breakage of the fired body. Accordingly, lowering of quality and appearance of the ceramic structure as an end product can be more surely prevented.